

REMARKS

Upon entry of this Supplemental Preliminary Amendment into the above-identified Continuing Application, claims 8-22 will be under active consideration in the application.

Claims 17 and 21 have been amended so as to more specifically define the invention, and also to correct an inadvertent typographical error. No new matter has been entered into the application as a result of this amendment. Claims 8-22 are allowable. Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made."

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the issuance of a Notice of Allowability for this case. Early and favorable consideration is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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Dated: 11/21/2001

HAG\86734.1

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Version with markings to show changes made.

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 17 and 21 have been amended as follows:

17. (Amended) A heat pipe for spreading heat comprising:
a boundary structure including spaced-apart first and second plates that define
an enclosed vapor chamber;
at least one hollow column positioned within said vapor chamber and sealingly
bonded to at least one of said first and second plates, having an open first end that
opens through said first plate and an open second end that opens through said second
plate so as to form at least one mounting hole that is isolated from said vapor chamber.

21. (Amended) A heat pipe for spreading heat comprising:
a first plate having a circumferential edge lip bounding an inner surface and at
least one depression which projects outwardly relative to said inner surface;[:]
a second plate arranged in spaced apart confronting relation to said first plate
and including a circumferential edge lip bounding an inner surface and at least one
opening through said second plate, said edge lips of said first and second plates being
bonded together so as to define a vapor chamber; wherein
said at least one depression has an open ended tubular cross-section and an
outer surface, a portion of which outer surface is bonded to said second plate so as to
coaxially align said at least one depression with said at least one opening in said
second plate thereby to form a mounting hole that extends through said first plate
depression and said second plate and is isolated from said vapor chamber.

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